

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (withdrawn): A composition for oral administration, which comprises as an active ingredient, a therapeutically-effective amount of at least one flavanone compound or its derivatives, or a mixture thereof.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): A composition according to claim 1, wherein the flavanone compounds is selected from the group consisting of isosacuranetin, naringin, hesperidin, eriodictyol, poncirin, and neoeriocitrin.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): A composition according to claim 1, wherein the derivatives are selected from the group consisting of aglycone, chalcone, glycosylated and methylated forms of the flavanone and sulfated and glucuronidated forms which are a product of their metabolism in blood.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): A composition according to claim 1, wherein the derivative is obtained by enzymatic treatment.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): A composition according to claim 1, wherein the flavanone compound is extracted from a pulp or peel of Citrus fruits.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): A composition according to claim 1 comprising an active compound selected from the group consisting of vitamin C, vitamin E, carotenoids, ubiquinones, catechins, coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes, extracts of chicory, ginkgo biloba extracts, grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins, spice extracts, soy extracts, other sources of flavonoids with antioxidant activity, fatty acids, prebiotic fibers, probiotic microorganisms, taurine, resveratrol, aminoacids, selenium and precursors of glutathione.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is selected from the group consisting of milk, yogurt, curd, cheese, fermented milks, milk based fermented products, ice-creams, milk based powders, infant formulae, cereal products, fermented cereal based products, mineral water, chocolate, pet food, dietary supplement, tablets and cosmetic products.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): A method for preparing a composition intended to prevent, allievate or treat skin, hair and/or coat disorders or damages comprising the step of using a therapeutically-effective amount of at least one flavonone compound, its derivative, or a mixture thereof as an active ingredient to produce the composition.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method for improving at least one skin characteristic of a human or pet animal, wherein the at least one skin characteristic is selected from the group consisting of photoprotection, hydration, dryness, firmness, elasticity, ~~oiliness~~, thickness, regular pigmentation, barrier function, antioxidant status, reduced risks of ~~cancer or inflammation~~, ~~modulated sebum production or composition~~, and reduced signs of ageing, the method comprising:

orally administering a composition comprising ~~a therapeutically effective amount of~~ at least one flavanone compound selected from the group consisting of isosacuranetin, naringin, hesperidin, eriodictyol, poncirin, neoeriocitrin and a mixture thereof or a derivative of at least one flavanone selected from the group consisting of their ~~aglycone~~, chalcone, glycosylated or methylated forms and sulfated and glucuronidated forms which are a product of their metabolism in blood and a mixture thereof, as an active ingredient to a human or pet animal requiring improvement in the at least one skin characteristic, the flavanone compound, its derivatives or mixtures thereof present in an amount from 0.01 mg to 1.0 g of aglycone equivalent of the flavanone compound.

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the flavanone compound is extracted from Citrus fruits.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the composition is a composition selected from the group consisting of a nutritional and pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 13 (canceled):

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the human or pet animal suffers a skin disorder or damage produced by a situation selected from the group consisting of ageing, chemical, biological or a physical stress, exposure to oxidants, carcinogens, bacteria, fungi, lipids derived from surrounding cells, microbes, and exposure to UV-irradiation.

Claim 15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the composition is administered to improve hair and coat gloss, hair density, color, oilness, to ameliorate hair fiber diameter, and sebum production.

Claims 17-18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (withdrawn): A composition according to claim 1, wherein the derivative is synthetically produced.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): A composition according to claim 1, wherein the Citrus fruits is selected from the group consisting of orange, lemon, bitter orange and grapefruit.

Claims 21-26 (canceled).

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the composition is administered to improve cytoprotection of the skin or to reduce inflammation of the skin.